

Friends Bulletin

PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

VOLUME 36, NUMBER 10

JUNE, 1968

ANNOUNCEMENTS - 1968 PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING

Yearly Meeting this summer will again be on the campus of St. Mary's College, a Catholic institution, run by the Christian Brothers, in Moraga, California, a small town about twelve miles east of Berkeley. The compact, beautifully landscaped campus is one part of the 400 acres owned by the college in the Moraga Valley. Walks from dorms and camping area to all other parts we will be using are short and level. The expected weather will be in the high 70's and low 80's: if you intend to visit San Francisco, don't forget to bring warm clothes—it is cool in S.F. in the summer. It may also be cool in the evenings on campus.

Representative Committee will meet on Sunday, August 18th. Yearly Meeting itself will begin on Monday, August 19th, and end after lunch on Friday, August 23rd.

How to Get There. By Car: Moraga is best reached by coming to Berkeley on Interstate 80 from the north and on U.S. 50 from the south, and then turning east on State Highway 24 (Ashby Avenue) for about six miles to Orinda. From Orinda follow the highway signs and the "PYM" signs six more miles to the college.

A shorter but more complex set of alternate routes is as follows: From the north, turn off Interstate 80 at Cordelia onto State 21; follow this route to Benicia, join freeway 680 and cross the Benicia-Martinez bridge, going to Walnut Creek. At Walnut Creek take the freeway (State 24) toward Oakland, leaving it at Orinda and turning south to Moraga. From the south, leave U.S. 50 at Dublin, follow State 21 to Walnut Creek, turn toward Oakland, and leave freeway at Orinda, as described above.

By public transportation: Orinda is served only by the Greyhound Bus Lines, coming from San Francisco. Those coming by bus will be met if they give advance notice of arrival time in Orinda.

Air travelers can be met at the airports, also with advance notice required. Oakland airport is closer than San Francisco, if you have a choice.

All travel arrangements requests should be sent to the Registrar using the form on the registration blank.

Housing. Dormitory housing will be in the buildings used by the student body. The rooms are somewhat small, with two single

beds each and floor space for two to three more (depending upon size). Generally speaking, older Friends will be in Justin Hall, which has a level entrance; families with small children in Mitty Hall (the child-care program for small children will be in the lounge there, and the coin-operated washing facilities are also in this dorm); and "all others" will be in Aquinas and De La Salle Halls.

Friends should bring their own blankets; the college will furnish sheets. For those who must travel lightly, a limited number of blankets may be rented from the college.

Camping facilities will be in a large eucalyptus grove, adjacent to the dorms. Because of the severe fire hazard at this time of year, all cooking **must** be done on camp stoves; no open fires will be permitted in the camping area. For the same reason, no smoking is allowed in the camping area, although there are no other restrictions on smoking.

Meals: Meals will be served cafeteria-style in Oliver Hall. Breakfast will be from 7 to 8:30, lunch from 12 to 1:30, and dinner from 5:30 to 7:00.

The first meal for those coming to Yearly Meeting will be dinner on Monday, August 19th, and the last, lunch on August 23rd. Meals for Representative Committee members will begin with dinner on August 18th. Groups wanting box lunches for trips can be accommodated if notice is given on the morning of the **previous day**.

Recreational and Other Facilities: There is an indoor swimming pool available to us; there are tennis and handball courts; there are acres and acres of lawn, and even more acres of hills for hiking. (Hikers should be aware that in addition to the usual hazards of fatigue and sunburn, California foothills add their own peculiarities: an abundance of poison oak, and an occasional rattlesnake..)

One of the buildings has a coin-operated snack bar with an adjoining lounge. There is a large supermarket about two miles from the college, and shops at the freeway off-ramps in Orinda for other needs.

Mail: Those who want to receive mail at Yearly Meeting should have it addressed to:

(Your name)
Pacific Yearly Meeting
St. Mary's College
Moraga, California 94556

Arts and Crafts: Friends of all ages are invited to bring to Yearly Meeting any of their artistic creations — paintings, poems, sculpture, weaving, or what-have-you — that they wish to share with others (on a non-commercial basis, of course.) Barbara Perry (2737 Woolsey St., Berkeley, CA 94705) will be in charge of arranging display space for them.

Junior Friends: Junior Friends who do not come with their families are **required** to have a sponsor, who is more than a car-driver to Yearly Meeting. He or she is obligated to be a parent-in-fact, ready, willing, and able to know the activities and location of the sponsoree **at all times**. It should be made quite clear to such Junior Friends that they are answerable to their sponsors. In addition, it should be understood by **all** sponsors that they are accepting a position of being **resident** parent-in-fact at Yearly Meeting. (There have been some instances in the past when older Friends have agreed to be sponsors, but have not themselves attended Yearly Meeting. This is not an acceptable form of sponsorship in the eyes of the Arrangements Committee.)

Workerships: There are a limited number of opportunities for Young Friends, including Junior Friends entering their senior year of high school, to work in the dining and kitchen areas to offset part of their cost of attending PYM. Acceptance will be on a first-come, first-served basis, in the order in which their registration forms are received. Details on the registration forms.

There is a limited number of all-expense grants available to "Young Friends and couples young in spirit" who will act as dorm monitors in the Junior Friends Dorm. See announcement in the Letter to Young Friends on page 3 of this **Bulletin**.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

The program offers crafts, science, art, films, swimming, sports and other small-group activities for kids 5 to 12 years old.

The hours are 8:30-12 noon; 3:00-5:00 p.m.; 7:30-9:30 p.m.

A nursery program and baby care program is offered from 8:30-12 noon; and from 3:00-5:00 p.m. There will be no nursery program after 5 p.m.

Be sure to complete details of number of children, age and sex, in the registration blank.

St. Mary's is in a beautiful valley south of Walnut Creek. It is not near a highway. There is some poison oak in the hills behind the college. Swimming is available all afternoon, but the pool is 5 feet deep at the shallowest end.

Registration: As indicated on the blank enclosed in this **Bulletin**, this is being handled by Sacramento Meeting, with Richard Derby serving as Registrar. **Please observe the July 31st deadline for registrations.** Additional copies of this announcement **Bulletin** and additional registration blanks may be secured from the Clerk of your Monthly Meeting, from the Registrar, or from the Editor of the **Bulletin**.

Physical Arrangements: These are being handled by Larry and Barbara Perry, 2737 Woolsey St., Berkeley, CA 94705. Committee chairmen should write to them at once with requests for meeting space. Others needing special facilities (PA systems, tables, bulletin boards, etc.) please do likewise.

Announcements in the Bulletin. The **deadline** for final announcements, as well as for Documents in Advance to be published in the July-August issue is July 1. The Editor will be glad to have them sooner.

* * *

In 1965, for the June issue of the **Bulletin**, we wrote, "The Arrangements Committee has been most pleased with the progress of plans to date. The college personnel have been marvelously cooperative, and everything has been going well." After Yearly Meeting was over in 1965 both the college and the arrangements chairman were very pleased with how it had worked out. A large part of the credit is due to those who had attended with an attitude of friendliness and concern for both St. Mary's and the state of our own group. We return there in 1968 being warmly welcomed by the staff of the college and with every expectation that the family atmosphere we have had in the past at Yearly Meetings will again be with us.

BOB BARNES

Arrangements Committee Chairman

Bring warm-weather clothes, but have sweaters if the fog rolls in. Bring your favorite book, musical instrument, sports equipment, etc.

CHORAL GROUP

Those who like to sing are offered the opportunity to join this group at Yearly Meeting. It is planned to do one or two of the non-creedal songs from Schubert's **Mass in G**, and "How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place" from Brahms' **Requiem**, and possibly "Hospodi Pomilui", a Russian piece. If you are interested, please send a postcard to me giving your name and address, what part you sing, other music interests, and request if needed to have the music sent to you in advance.

BETSY MERRILL
515 E. Main Street
John Day, OR 97845

YOUNG FRIENDS

Dear Young Friends,

I extend my greetings on paper, in the hope that I will be seeing each of you personally August 18-23 at St. Mary's. For those of you who may not have received the newsletter mailed last month, let me summarize some important actions taken by the Executive Committee in March and propose a tentative schedule for Young Friends at Yearly Meeting.

The Executive Committee reacted very enthusiastically to suggestions that Young Friends be given greater opportunity to interact and integrate with the Yearly Meeting. During the day-long session it was decided that Young Friends would have an entire plenary session to communicate concerns and possible projects. Even beyond this participation, several committee chairmen expressed a desire to open their committees to ad hoc members from among Young Friends. For you who would be interested in the possibility of assuming such responsibilities at Yearly Meeting please write (addresses on page 4).

HUGH CAMPBELL BROWN, Chairman,
Ministry and Oversight Committee

ANNE MACKINNEY, Chairman, Social
Order Committee

ALAN STRAIN, Convenor, Peace Committee

Marilyn Heilman was authorized to make the following offer:

NOTE: TO YOUNG FRIENDS OR COUPLES YOUNG IN SPIRIT—YOU ARE NEEDED: Grants in aid for room and board are available for those who would live with Jr. Friends (9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades) as House Parents. Please contact Bob and Marilyn Heilman, Chief Advisors Jr. Y.M., Rt. 1, Box J-26, Nevada City 95959 to apply and receive more information. Join the happy generation!

Clearly there will be at St. Mary's a unique opportunity for Young Friends to share their commitment and activities with all members of the Yearly Meeting. I hope each of you will seriously consider some of the new avenues open to us.

Following is a tentative schedule of Young Friends meetings. I have attempted to leave it as flexible as possible while avoiding conflict with major plenary sessions and interest groups. **(For the complete schedule of PYM 1968 see the May Bulletin.)** It is offered for your consideration and comment.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

8:15-10:15 p.m. —Welcome for those who have arrived by Sunday

MONDAY, AUGUST 19

8:30-10:30 a.m. —4:00-5:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20

10:00 a.m.-12:00—

7:30-9:30 p.m. —PLENARY SESSION (V)
"Young Friends Speak"

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21

10:00 a.m.-12:00—5:45-7:15 p.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22

10:00 a.m.-12:00—PLENARY SESSION (VIII)
(Including) Young Friends
Yearly Meeting Report

7:30-9:30 p.m. —

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23

9:45-10:30 a.m. —PLENARY SESSION (X)
(Including) Young Friends
Yearly Meeting Epistle
Report of the Nominating
Committee

It is important that Young Friends attend the first few sessions to help plan and discuss the content of our following meetings though primarily to bring concerns in preparation for Tuesday's Plenary Session of the Yearly Meeting.

I have been asked by Madge Seaver, Clerk of the Yearly Meeting, after discussion in the Executive Meeting, that in our own discussions we concern ourselves with "Young Friends' relationship with their Monthly Meetings and the Yearly Meeting, in worship and other ways." It is hoped that we will speak of this matter in our report on Thursday morning. Again, the scheduling is flexible and may be refashioned as the first few meetings develop.

Looking forward to sharing concerns, commitments and worship with you in August, I wish you light in your journey.

ROY DIMON Clerk

JUNIOR FRIENDS

Dear Junior Friend,

This year at Pacific Junior Yearly Meeting we have an interesting schedule planned. The topics for discussion range from sex to prison life to China. We also hope to show the movie "Dr. Strangelove" or the movie "Failsafe".

The Junior Friends will have their own dormitory again this year. There is a change this year in that: the 7th and 8th graders will live with their sponsors, and the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th graders will live in the Junior Friends dorm. The dorm is to be quiet after 11:00 p.m.

We plan on having very few rules, with consideration for others as a concern of the Junior Friends. There is to be no marijuana or drugs at Yearly Meeting. If a person is caught with any he will have to leave, at the expense of his sponsor. All Junior Friends must have a sponsor who is in attendance at Yearly Meeting, and a Junior Friend is the responsibility of his sponsor except when at a Junior Yearly Meeting activity.

In peace,

DAN BLICKENSTAFF, Clerk

FRIENDS BULLETIN

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ALICE DART, Editor

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ADVERTISEMENTS: Classified—five cents a word; subject to approval of contents.

PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING OFFICERS

Presiding Clerk: MADGE T. SEAVER, 2160 Lake St., San Francisco, CA 94121.
Assistant Clerk: ROBERT McINNES, 1303 Madrone Pl., Davis, CA 95616.
Recording Clerk: RICHARD MANNERS, 6253 Temple City Blvd., Temple City, CA 91780.
Reading Clerk: DAVID BRUNER, 1603 Woodland Dr., Stockton, CA 95207.
Statistical Secretary: MILDRED BURCK, 5820 N. Vineyard Dr., Corvallis, OR 97330.
Treasurer: ROBERT YOUNG, 201 S. Lake Avenue, Suite 305, Pasadena CA 91101.
Young Friends Clerk: ROY DIMON, 13282 Herron, Sylmar, CA 91342.
Junior YM Clerk: DAN BLICKENSTAFF, Rt. 1, Box J-26, Nevada City, CA 95959.

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New Ways of Bringing Friends Together in Meetings: PHILLIP WELLS, 6350 Trelawney Ave., Temple City, CA 91780
Nominating: WALT RAITT, 7919 Misty Ln., Stockton, CA 95207
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1968

YEARLY MEETING
St. Mary's College

August 19-23
Moraga, California

CONTACTS

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Young Friends Clerk: Roy Dimon, 13282 Herron St., Sylmar, CA 91342
Junior Friends Clerk: Dan Blickenstaff, Rt 1, Box J26, Nevada City, CA 95959
Chief Advisors, Junior Yearly Meeting: Bob and Marilyn Heilman, Rt. 1, Box J26, Nevada City, CA 95959; phone (916) 273-3183

From The Quarterly Meetings

College Park Quarterly Meeting—Spring, 1968: A purely personal view: Thanks to the chance remark of a friend, I came to the weekend meeting of CPFQM at John Woolman School in April with a big question uppermost in my mind: Are the values we realize through Quarterly Meeting really worth all the time and effort, the loving care and the expense that goes into their planning and their carrying out?

Even my friend who raised the question admitted that the fellowship is a real joy, and infinitely worthwhile. The question was whether other values, beyond the purely social, are served by our meeting in this way. Happily I found abundant answers just as soon as I began to seek.

As I sat on the Ministry and Oversight Committee of the Quarter, discussing the state of our various monthly meetings, I found important insights to carry back to my own. I think it is important to see one's own Meeting reflected in the light of all the others. College Park Quarterly Meeting as now constituted provides an ideally intimate as well as broad opportunity for such reflection. It certainly gave me a new insight into my own Meeting's recent preoccupation with "Community," with interpersonal tensions and internal human relations, to find that so many other meetings reflect the same trend for the past year; and that others, like my own, trace this dominant current concern to our past year's common failure as monthly meetings to find consensus about relief to "enemy" as well as friend in Vietnam. Amazingly I found that most other meetings, like my own, have found themselves increasingly tied up in more or less tense reexamination of theological differences between the members—differences which Quaker action "after the manner of Friends" traditionally manages to surmount.

In the context of the whole weekend, we found some ways to surmount or bypass such tensions while acting as a quarterly meeting. Some large-group and small-group discussions, held on the model of the "Quaker dialogue," on the central topic of "Conscience," were productive of important insights that bore on our corporate deliberations and actions later on.

A highlight of the weekend was the discussion on Sunday, at our Meeting for Business, of the minute which had just been adopted on April 14 at the Friends Conference on the Draft at La Honda—a conference held under auspices of College Park Quarterly Meeting. "We oppose conscription because it ignores the dignity and freedom of man and

denies to a man the opportunity to make free choices . . ." this minute read in part. It continued, "We also oppose all proposed forms of civilian conscription, including the proposed indirect coercion of men through the threat of the draft into a 'National Service.'" These portions of the minute seemed to meet with general unity of the Quarterly Meeting—though time for discussion was limited, and there was some general uneasiness apparent among us as some Friends did not have the opportunity to speak as fully or as often as they would have liked. The portion on which we found a real and basic division among us was the closing paragraph of the minute:

Friends continue to support those who in good conscience are seeking to express sincere positions within the draft law. We are especially ready to aid and abet all those whose consciences call them to peaceful actions to resist conscription by violating the draft law.

Predictably, this closing paragraph provoked real uneasiness among those Friends who are themselves in sincere turmoil over the conflicting demands of obedience to law and civil disobedience. The question arose whether the wording ". . . aid and abet all those (who) . . . resist conscription by violating the draft law," was deliberately adopted to place ourselves purposely in such violation. Friends agreed that this was the intent. The question that was impossible to resolve by any consensus of those present, in the meager time remaining for the matter, was the question of the demands of "corporate conscience." When the Inner Light of differing Friends has not yet led them to consensus, yet when time is of the essence—both in urging immediate action to oppose the intolerable trend of an unconscionable social order, and in limiting the period which a body of busy Friends can have for seeking the course of real wisdom together—how best can we then give expression to "that of God" among us in a meaningful corporate act of service and witness "after the manner of Friends" . . . ?

The question remains unresolved. In some haste Friends finally agreed to remove the words "and abet" from the minute before granting the approval of College Park Quarterly Meeting. But doubts and reservations still weighed heavily on individual Friends—doubts that were only mildly allayed by the reminder of our clerk that further consideration of this action could be taken by monthly meetings before transmittal of the action to Pacific Yearly Meeting as a recommendation.

* * *

I began to write this "purely personal view" of Quarterly Meeting by expressing my own conviction of its religious value, both in the individual and social lives of members and in the ongoing expression of that of God in Man. Perusing my report I affirmed that "we found some ways to surmount or bypass such tensions" as there were among us. And now in honesty as I relive those tensions I must recognize that "finding and seeking" yet again reveal themselves as twin aspects of the Quaker adventure, as we continue to explore together the meaning of participation in the Religious Society of Friends.

ANNE HIGHSMITH DALE
College Park Meeting

Willamette Quarterly Meeting this April 27-28 was for me a taste of what a smaller Yearly Meeting could be—time for rather close fellowship with our hosts and hostesses on Saturday evening, both at dinner and again in the morning, sessions with adults and young people, worship together, with a business session Sunday afternoon. Three of

us adults became involved in conversation with two young Friends, one of whom said that this weekend was a completely new experience to him, and he thought it "just great."

What makes the difference in Quarterly Meetings? The weather? (We had our first two consecutively beautiful days in months.) Our preparation in Monthly Meeting for Business? The Meeting for Business held after the Meeting for Worship? The greater participation in all the sessions by the young Friends? Whatever it was, I felt that this was a manifestation of the acceptance of Quarterly Meeting responsibilities by all concerned.

MILDRED COWGER, Salem Meeting

Pacific Northwest Quarterly Meeting. About sixty Junior Friends and adults came a day early to discuss reasons for seeming lack of communication. In two hours on Friday evening not much was settled, but questions were raised and ideas stirred up. Next morning another two hour session met in small groups. It was felt worthwhile: there was communication and greater understanding. Such discussion sessions on a chosen topic will be held before each coming Quarterly Meeting if possible.

QUARTERLY MEETING convened then in Tacoma Meeting House at 2 p.m., April 6, holding first a Meeting for Worship, remembering Martin Luther King, Jr. Later worship was in memory of Clifford Maser.

JUNIOR FRIENDS: They plan to camp this year with Oregon JF. Marilyn Heilman, JF PYM Advisor, met with them. JF spent the later afternoon and evening at the Beverly farm.

QUARTERLY MEETING set up a Clerk's Advisory Committee to help plan sessions and help with interim action . . . In sorting out Junior Friends' affairs, it was established that the Advisor is in authority if problems arise during Quarterly Meeting; any dissatisfaction with decisions should be taken by a young person to the Oversight Committee in his Monthly Meeting before referring back (if advisable) to Quarterly Meeting.

MINISTRY AND OVERSIGHT: Eastside and University Meetings are working together on a new statement about marriage . . . The Steere's visit was particularly valuable to M and O members . . . Calgary Meeting asked for help in giving new comers the feeling of the continuing stream of Quakerism: to answer this a team is to visit each Meeting in our Quarter, a different team for each one.

PEACE AND SOCIAL ORDER: A telegram was sent to the SCLC expressing our profound sorrow over the death of Martin Luther King Jr.; a collection was taken to send to Mrs. King to be used in his memory . . . The question was raised of Friends' position in regard to homosexuals . . . Many young men are entering Canada without any clear idea of what it really is they are doing: Friends in the U.S. should be aware of this problem and try to steer such young men to draft counselors . . . We sent a telegram to the President urging implementation of the President's Commission on Civil Disorders.

FRIENDS IN THE ORIENT: The Committee is still pursuing the idea of a Friend in Vietnam although it seems even more difficult now than some months ago. They need more money to be ready to send someone when opportunity rises.

All present were divided among Tacoma Friends' homes for dinner and discussion.

Our sessions are to be held regularly now on the fourth Saturday of October and April. In October we will meet at University Meeting.

ALICE MILES
University Meeting

A SILENT RETREAT

I am writing because I am very excited about a new development which I think is relevant to the lives of Quakers everywhere. I am speaking of "silent retreats," such as the ones at Foy Van Dolson's farm (in California) around Christmas time in 1967 and 1966.

I was not able to go to those gatherings, so I was very happy when I had a chance to participate in two of these retreats this year in Oregon. This article describes the first of these experiences. If others who were present feel I misrepresent them, I hope they will speak to me, and forgive me.

We left Lewis and Clark College on Friday and drove to a beach house near Pacific City, Oregon. This gathering of kids was quiet and hesitant at the beginning, probably because we were somewhat strangers to each other. But as the weekend wore on, we opened up. Some people walked through the woods; some went canoeing; some sat around reading, singing, meditating, maybe crying. And on Sunday afternoon we all drove to the beach and had a blast running around, wading in the surf, and digging the sea gulls.

Since the majority of us were college students, we felt bound together by a common likeness. Although a few people left early, most of us stayed the entire weekend and rode back to Portland together very refreshed and thoughtful.

I think all of us felt a loneliness at first, because we could not share thoughts and emotions. A "no talking" rule forces you to withdraw into yourself until you find non-verbal ways to communicate. As I think back on the weekend, though, this "silence" was also a relief from the daily hassle of talking with other people. For those who feel inadequate in their speech (which probably includes all of us at one time or another) "silent retreats" are a chance to drop any fear of misunderstanding someone or making a verbal mistake. This non-evaluative atmosphere provides a peace and and security most of us usually find in the world of Nature.

When you are angry in a situation like this, you cannot swear at, tease, criticize, use sarcasm upon, or otherwise verbally assault another person. So

you may either (1) become physically violent, (2) suppress your anger (until later), or (3) lose your anger entirely.

Conversely, when you are happy or feel love toward someone, you can experience only frustration if you cannot find a way to express this non-verbally. So you discover touching, singing, cooking, dancing, "back-rubbing," smiling, and playing private games together.

As an interesting anecdote, let me tell you about another acquaintance I made (non-verbally of course). It's about a dog. At one point on Sunday morning, I was so frightened of a neighbor's neurotic German Shepherd, I almost smashed his head with a hastily seized stick. I tried to calm myself and use reason. Perhaps if I confronted him with satyagraha, soul force, I could bring out the kindness I knew was in him. But all I had time to do before we headed back to Portland was to leave an offering of steak scraps under a lumber pile. So my experiment was inconclusive. This may seem amusing to you, but I was dead serious. Silence brings you closer in communion with the animals and plants, and challenges you to relate to them without "Go home" and "Good dog," etc.

For those who want to organize their own non-verbal activities, I have several suggestions:

1. Spend at least a weekend together. I think a retreat type gathering holds the greatest chance for success.

2. Hold to the rule: No verbal communication. Once you make an exception for yourself, you soon find yourself lapsing into old habits.

3. Experiment. This is a new experience for most of us, and there are few guidelines to help us.

I hope Quakers and others will be inspired to experiment with this type of communication. Perhaps Meetings will want to plan such retreats. Or maybe individual families will venture to try these ideas. But no matter how much is written or said about the experience, you can only really understand when you have done it yourself.

DAVE PRIDEAUX
Salem Meeting

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FRIENDS BULLETIN

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